

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/EP2003/005605



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

02 DEC 2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference WA 2767-04WO		FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/EP2003/005605	International filing date (day/month/year) 28 May 2003 (28.05.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 05 June 2002 (05.06.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC F03D 1/06		
Applicant WOBBEN, Aloys		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 2 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☒ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17 December 2003 (17.12.2003)	Date of completion of this report 05 July 2004 (05.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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International application No.

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I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
 pages 1-13, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
 pages 7-19, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages 1-6, filed with the letter of 11 June 2004 (11.06.2004)
- ☒ the drawings:
 pages 1/7-7/7, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application.

☒ claims Nos. 10-19

because:

☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. _____
relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):

☒ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 10-19
are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

SEE SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. _____ are so inadequately supported
by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☐ no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. _____

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: III.1.

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The expressions "...in particular according to claim..." or "...in particular according to one of the preceding claims..." in claims 10, 11, 12 and 19 are vague and unclear and leave the reader uncertain as to the meaning of the technical features in question and as to the dependence of the claims. As a result, the subject matter of these claims is not clearly defined (PCT Article 6).

Claims 13-18 are dependent upon one of the preceding claims and thus likewise fail to satisfy the PCT requirements with respect to clarity (PCT Article 6).

Moreover, the wording of said claims does not make clear and unambiguous what combination of technical features actually forms the subject matter of claims 10-19.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 9	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 9	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 9	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: US-A-4 773 824 (KISS STEFAN) 27 September 1988
(1988-09-27)

Document D1 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. It discloses (the references in parentheses are to D1):

a wind power installation with at least one rotor blade that is attached to a rotor hub and with a hub covering.

The subject matter of claim 1 thus differs from the known wind power installation in that part of the rotor blade is formed on the outside of the hub covering, this rotor part being permanently attached but not an integral component of the rotor blade of the wind power installation.

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can thus be seen as that of improving the efficiency of the rotor blades and of reducing strain on the wind power installation as a whole.

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The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

operating at the same capacity and using the rotor blade design according to the invention or the design for the entire wind power installation according to the invention, it is possible to reduce the number of revolutions and thus to reduce strain on the structure.

Claims 2-9 are dependent upon claim 1 and thus likewise satisfy the PCT requirements with respect to novelty and inventive step.

Claims 1-9 satisfy the PCT requirements with respect to industrial applicability (PCT Article 33(4)).